

• Abroad •

Bonn. Herr Kai-Uwe von Hassel, who replaces Strauss as Defense Minister in the Bonn government, is little known abroad but well known inside West Germany. He was an important figure in the Bundestag in 1953 to 55. Since then he has been Chief Minister of Schleswig-Holstein and political boss of north Germany. Von Hassel was born in what was (in 1913) German East Africa. He speaks perfect English and French and fluent Swahili. He is a firm conservative, anti-socialist as well as anti-Communist; and (in his own words) "an out-and-out European" favoring an "all-embracing" Europe that will include Britain. He has long been intimately concerned with problems of German rearmament. Comparatively young (49), many believe that von Hassel is a probable candidate for chancellor, after a brief tour by Erhard.

Algiers. According to the latest statistics, 675,000 refugees of French origin left Algeria for France this year. Of these, 530,000 had to apply for relief or assistance from public authorities; 170,000 had arrived in earlier years, making a grand total of 845,000. About 180,000 remain in Algeria. Also this year, especially since independence (July 1), tens of thousands of Arabs have also transferred to France, taking advantage of the option under the Evian agreement that permitted them to retain French citizenship upon declaration prior to December 31, 1962.

London. The natural result of the decision, six years ago, to revoke the law that had limited the height of buildings to 100 feet is growingly conspicuous on the London skyline. In practice, the new limit seems to be set at about 400 feet. The new Vickers building, for example, rises 380 feet just up river from Westminster. The Hilton Hotel, sprouting right up from Hyde Park Corner, is about the same. The London City Council has approved more than 250 applications for high buildings. The widely criticized appearance of the Shell building, among the first to be finished, has led to demands that more attention be paid to aesthetic along with utilitarian aspects in granting approval. The Council now stipulates that "design and finish" must be of "exceptionally high standard" as against the previous requirement for "sufficiently high quality." It is also being urged to take into account the effect on views of special visual significance, so that such areas as the Buckingham Palace complex will not be overshadowed by high neighbors (two are currently under consideration). Somewhat ironically, the Commissioners of the Church of England have already got approval for a lofty headquarters that will ruin the famous view of St. Paul's cathedral from Waterloo Bridge.

Brunei. In the exceedingly complex background of the revolt, in this British Protectorate, Chinese, Philippine

and Indonesian components have been widely recognized. It has not been much noticed that there is also a "Katanga factor." Brunei, with its abundant oil fields the analogue of Katanga's copper mines, is on a per capita basis much the richest of the regions slated to join in greater Malaysia. The rebel force, calling itself the North Borneo National Army, wore Buffalo Head badges, symbol of the Raayat Party, the local indigenous political organization to which Azahari, the announced chief of the revolt, belongs. Raayat has come out flatly against federation, and on that platform recently won 54 out of 55 local district elections, and all the elective seats in the Brunei legislature.



"Bang goes our next Trafalgar Square demonstration"

Paris. It seems almost certain, now, that the two great temples of Abu Simbel on the Nubian Nile will disappear beneath the waters rising behind the slowing advancing works of the Aswan Dam. Italian engineers had drawn up a remarkable scheme for raising the colossal structures 200 feet by cutting them away from the rock cliffs out of which they are carved and jacking them up millimeter by millimeter on concrete pillars growing beneath them. Financing was to be carried out through UNESCO, but early this month UNESCO's annual conference formally declined to be banker by a reluctant vote of 37 for, 28 against, 19 abstaining and 29 absent. From a technical standpoint, the Egyptian government cannot wait longer than to March 30 to know whether the money will be made available. Unless other nations follow the example of the Sheik of Kuwait, who has offered a \$5.5 million contribution, the temples will be preserved only in the magnificent photographs, drawings and studies made over the past three years by the team of archaeologists.

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